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Daily Report

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Daily Report

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Gabon

PDG Politburo Pledges Multiparty System Creation

AB1003063690 Paris AFP in English 0109 GMT
10 Mar 90

[Text] Libreville, March 10 (AFP)—Gabon's single party on Friday [9 March] pledged that the democratic process underway would result in the creation of a multiparty system in this West African state. An official communique released after a meeting of the Politburo of the ruling Gabonese Democratic Party (PDG) said political reforms would not stop until a multiparty system was installed.

But the party warned that the advent of a multiparty society required "serious preparation". The first step would be the creation of the Gabonese Social Democratic Rally, an organization that is to replace the PDG and would include other political currents.

The announcement came in the wake of weeks of student unrest and a wave of strikes by both private and public sector employees. The communique said that democracy would be arrived at following the reform of existing institutions, an extension of the number of elected posts, the creation of a senate, (?better) management of state assets, the decentralization of the state budget and improvements in housing and transportation policies. Individual freedoms would be guaranteed each citizen, the communique continued. Beginning April 1, Gabonese would no longer need authorization to leave the country.

A special national conference will be held in Libreville from March 23 to 30, the communique said. Its task would be to draft statutes of the new political organization that is to replace the ruling party and to revise the constitution. Participating in the national conference would be representatives of the ruling party, other political associations, and religious and professional groups. The national conference is to be followed by a special congress of the PDG which would vote the party's dissolution.

Conference Planned for 23-30 Mar

AB1103180090 Dakar PANA in French 1043 GMT
10 Mar 90

[Text] Libreville, 10 Mar (AGP-GAB/PANA)—The national conference announced by the Gabonese head of state on 23 February will be held in Libreville from 23 to 30 March this year. This was announced in an official communique published yesterday evening in the Gabonese capital at the end of a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Gabonese Democratic Party (PDG, the sole party) chaired by Omar Bongo. The communique specified that those eligible to participate in the national conference, apart from the party leadership, are representatives of all the political associations that do not belong to the PDG, representatives of the civilian society

grouped according to professions, one member of Parliament per province, and representatives of the Catholic, Protestant, and Muslim confessional groups.

The communique said that during the national conference, all the political associations will express themselves freely and will be able to make their contribution to the wide-ranging national debate on democracy. The conference, which will be charged with the drafting of the statutes of the new political organization, the Gabonese Social-Democratic Rally (RSDG), will be followed by an extraordinary congress of the PDG which will witness the effectual dissolution of that party, the date of which will be set later, it was stated.

The Political Bureau has stated that the ongoing democratic process in Gabon will be "pursued and followed to its conclusion in the setting up of a multiparty system," adding, however, that "multiparty politics requires a very serious preparation." In this regard, the RSDG constitutes "the appropriate framework of an apprenticeship leading toward a multiparty system, in national unity and preserved social peace," the communique noted.

According to the conclusions of the National Commission for democracy created in January this year, this rally will make possible a "coexistence and the expression of different political views." On the national front, the communique continued, democracy will be established "thanks to a re-melting of the institutions of the Republic, which will be manifested by a general vote on anything that requires election; the creation of a Senate; instilling proper management of public property; decentralizing the state budget, notably in favor of the provinces; reestablishing a balance in the policy of housing and transport; and instilling probity in public life and integrity in the management of state property."

The communique also stated that "the fundamental liberties are now more than ever acknowledged with respect to every citizen," whether it concerns individual or collective liberties, freedom of expression or association, freedom to create trade unions, or freedom of the press." After making a critical analysis of the government's attitude in the face of the sociopolitical crisis that the country is currently passing through, the Political Bureau "deplored the increasing number of tracts which, in Libreville especially, are setting individuals against each other and tribes against each other, which poses a risk to the national unity."

On this issue, the Political Bureau said "the conditions have now been met for the writers of the tracts to express themselves freely and openly, because Gabon must open up to a true democracy," the communique concluded.

Bongo Views Creation of New Party

AB1103112490 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
0730 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] The ongoing democratization process in Gabon will result in the establishment of the multiparty system.

That is one of the main results of the meeting of the Gabonese Democratic Party [PDG] Political Bureau. The PDG will soon be transformed into the Gabonese Social-Democrat Rally [RSDG], which will be a sort of experiment for the eventual establishment of a multi-party democratic system in Gabon. Listen to President Bongo talking on the line yesterday to Jean-Valere Mbinamanza:

[Begin Bongo recording] I have created the RSDG [words indistinct]. The PDG will be a mainstream of the RSDG, which will also include other political movements or associations. That is the background of the current process. The various movements or associations will all be in the RSDG, but with each movement maintaining its entity pending the time when I clarify the situation. That is the decision which has been made. [end recording]

Zaire

Mobutu To Mediate in Sudan Conflict, Urges Peace

AB1203130890 Dakar PANA in English 1200 GMT
12 Mar 90

[Text] Kinshasa, 12 March, (AZAP/PANA)—The Sudanese president, Lt. Gen. 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, who on Sunday [11 March] made a brief working visit to

Kinshasa, confirmed that he would like to have his Zairian counterpart mediate in the armed conflict in southern Sudan.

A press statement issued at the end of Al-Bashir's visit said President Mobutu Sese Seko promised to mediate in the conflict. Mobutu made a pressing appeal to the two warring parties to lay down their arms and agree to a cease-fire as a prelude to real peace negotiations.

On the situation in Africa, the two presidents saluted the forthcoming Namibian independence. They also called for the abolition of apartheid and appreciated the struggle being waged by the South African people as well as the positive evolution of the policy of the South African Government which led to the recognition of the ANC [African National Congress], PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], and other anti-apartheid political organisations.

The two heads of state applauded the release of black South African leaders, especially Nelson Mandela, and asked the Pretoria government to remove the last obstacles blocking the path to negotiations for a multi-racial society in South Africa.

In the economic field, the two heads of state deplored the continued worsening of the terms of trade due to an unfair international economic order which has aggravated the indebtedness of the Third World and of Africa in particular. The two leaders supported the idea of convening an international conference on African debt.

Ethiopia

EPLF's Afeworki Appeals to UN on Relief Aid

EA1203145890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] Listeners, we now present the full text of the message sent yesterday by Comrade Isayas Afeworki, secretary general of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF], to Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations.

Your Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the UN, allow me to present this urgent and important issue for your attention:

since the EPLF placed Mitsiwa Port under its control in a situation of war and drought, it has been repeatedly expressing its readiness to cooperate, with all its capability and facilities, with the aim of strengthening relief efforts. Recognizing the urgency of the issue, it is convinced that the delivery of relief aid through Mitsiwa Port is one of the humanitarian tasks.

Therefore, the EPLF would like to inform your excellency that the facilities at Mitsiwa Port and the routes branching off from the port are open and free for relief efforts. The EPLF calls on the UN, an organization representing the world community, to shoulder this as its prime responsibility, to cooperate with all those concerned, and to perform a leading role in making the facilities complete in a short period of time and in coordinating all relief efforts.

With regards, Isayas Afeworki, EPLF secretary general, 11 March 1990.

Kenya

New Ministers Sworn in 12 Mar; Moi Present

EA1203185390 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Summary] At a ceremony at State House, Nairobi, today President Moi witnessed the swearing in of Mr. John Kyalo as minister of state in the Office of the President and Mr. Onyango Midika as minister for regional development.

Tanzania

Papers Report Prime Minister, Cabinet Resign

EA1303102090 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 0400 GMT 13 Mar 90

[Excerpt] The union cabinet, including the prime minister and first vice president, Ndugu [Comrade] Joseph

Warioba, resigned yesterday on request by President Ali Hassan Mwinyi in an unprecedented move. This is reported by both UHURU and the DAILY NEWS on their front pages today.

A State House statement said the president had asked all the ministers to resign (their posts to allow him to appoint a new cabinet. No further details were given. [passage omitted])

Civil Servants To Run Ministries

EA1203192090 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] Dar es Salaam—President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has ruled that all the functions of various government ministries of the united republic will be run by the principal secretaries of those ministries until he forms a new council of ministers. This move follows a decision announced by President Mwinyi this morning calling on all ministers to resign so as to give him a chance to form a Cabinet.

A statement issued by State House said the President announced the move of calling on all ministers to resign during a special session of the Council of Ministers which was held in Ikulu [state house], Dar es Salaam, this morning.

ANC Deputy President Mandela Departs for Sweden

EA1203150790 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0400 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] Dar es Salaam—Last night, the South African nationalist leader, Mr. Nelson Mandela, left Dar es Salaam for Stockholm, Sweden, after a six-day visit to the country.

Speaking at news conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Mr. Mandela said that the African National Congress [ANC] was not prepared to start peace talks with the Boer regime until the Boers fulfill all the conditions set down by the ANC. He said that De Klerk's act of unbanning opposition parties, such as the ANC and other anti-apartheid groups in the country, was only one of the conditions set by the ANC.

Others include the lifting of the state of emergency, and since the state of emergency was still in force, the ANC could not start peace talks with the Boers.

Mr. Mandela has gone to Sweden to meet ANC president, Mr. Oliver Tambo, who is undergoing treatment in that country.

ANC's Nelson Mandela Arrives in Sweden 12 Mar
LD1203110890 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish
1030 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] The South African nationalist leader Nelson Mandela arrived in Stockholm two hours ago for a five-day visit, with his wife Winnie, and some of the leaders of the African National Congress [ANC]. Mandela was received at Stockholm's Arlanda Airport by Foreign Minister Sten Andersson. During the visit Mandela will meet the ANC President, Oliver Tambo, who is receiving treatment in a Stockholm hospital. Nelson Mandela will have talks with Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, among others, and take part in a gala event for the ANC at Globen [entertainment center] on 16 March.

To Visit Tambo 'Nearly Every Day'

MB1203162490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1227 GMT 12 Mar 90

[By Mark van der Velden]

[Text] Stockholm March 12 SAPA—The ANC's [African National Congress] executive remained adamant on Monday [12 March] that the historic first meeting in 27 years between the organisation's two top men, Nelson Mandela and the ailing Oliver Tambo, would take place behind closed doors away from the media's spotlight.

They were equally insistent nothing suspicious should be read into this, reiterating that Mr Tambo, partially paralysed by a stroke last August, was making a "tremendous recovery".

It had been decided however that Mr Tambo, who was needed by the organisation as a healthy man, would be allowed to make a full recovery away from the stress and strain of facing the media's flashlights, spotlights and probing questions.

Mr Mandela, who arrived in Stockholm on Monday morning for a week-long visit, went directly after the official welcoming ceremony at the Arland Airport to see Mr Tambo at the clinic outside the city where he is being treated.

Only a few close friends and ANC and Swedish officials were expected to witness the undoubtedly emotional moment as Mr Tambo and Mr Mandela were reunited after 27 years—one in prison in South Africa and the other leading the ANC through nearly 30 years in exile.

The ANC's chief representative in Sweden, Billy Modise, said a private photographer had been commissioned to record the meeting and that selected prints would be released to the media later.

A similar procedure was followed when the ANC's former secretary general, Walter Sisulu, visited Mr Tambo after his release last year from Pollsmoor Prison near Cape Town.

The official photograph showed a composed Mr Tambo, dressed in one of his favourite three-piece suits and reclining in a chair.

The stroke, described by the ANC as a "brain spasm", has left one side of his body partially paralysed but, except for an outstretched leg, there was no clear evidence of this from the photograph.

Numerous requests from journalists to see Mr Tambo have all been turned down since he arrived in Stockholm from a London hospital, but reports are that the elderly ANC president's speech is unimpaired and that his mind is still as alert as ever.

Mr Modise said the ANC would like to allow the media to record their first meeting "but that chance has not yet arrived".

There was "no funny business" involved, as some malicious reports had alleged, and the photograph of Mr Tambo proved he was "well-looking and healthy".

"It is not that we don't want Comrade Tambo to be seen, but we brought him to Sweden to get him away from the focus of things so that he can recover.

"He needs time to focus on his health so that he comes back strongly.

"There are no funny reasons—he is like I am, but he needs his fair share of rest," Mr Modise said.

Mr Mandela was expected to visit Mr Tambo nearly every day of his visit to Sweden and to have lengthy consultations with him on the ANC's strategy in the build-up of negotiations with the South African Government.

Meets With Tambo in Stockholm

MB1203163690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1606 GMT 12 Mar 90

[By Mark van der Velden]

[Text] Stockholm March 12 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] Deputy President Nelson Mandela disappeared from the public eye shortly after his fêted arrival in Stockholm on Monday [12 March] morning to spend the remainder of the day in a private reunion with the organisation's ailing president, Oliver Tambo.

An ANC spokesman said afterwards the historic first meeting between the two since 1962 was "a very excited and emotional occasion".

He declined to describe the meeting further, beyond adding both men—close friends and former law partners in Johannesburg before Mr Mandela was imprisoned and Mr Tambo went into exile to lead the ANC—"immediately launched into a sociable discussion about their respective current situations".

Another spokesman said earlier although they had important matters to discuss, they would very likely take

time aside to swap memories of the years before the anti-apartheid struggle separated them for nearly half their lives.

A small group of close friends and senior ANC leaders witnessed the reunion on Monday afternoon, but privately commissioned photographs of the meeting would be released later, an official said.

The ANC has refused media access to Mr Tambo on the grounds he needs peace and quiet to make a full recovery.

The Mandela/Tambo reunion took place at the Haga government guest house, a former royal family palace now reserved for visiting heads of state, where Mr Mandela and his wife, Winnie, are staying.

The ANC declined to confirm Mr Tambo had been brought to the palace for the meeting from the Stockholm clinic where he is being treated.

It was understood Mr Tambo was in fact also staying at the palace, with doctors attending him, so that Mr Mandela could spend as much time as possible with him.

Besides meeting Mr Tambo, Mr Mandela was understood to be using the remainder of Monday to rest up for the busy schedule planned for him until Friday, when he will address a mass public rally.

Although partially paralysed by a stroke last August, spokesmen indicated Mr Tambo was keenly following developments in South Africa and within the ANC, and that Mr Mandela would be consulting him at length in the coming days on future strategies.

Mr Mandela and his ANC delegation arrived at Stockholm's Arlanda Airport on Monday morning on a Dutch airline flight from Dar es Salaam.

Swedish authorities took elaborate security precautions, diverting the aircraft to a secluded section of the airport, meaning that ordinary passengers had to be bussed to the terminal buildings.

Mr Mandela was welcomed by an excited, singing group of about 50 ANC supporters, having a large green, gold and black banner with the words "Welcome to Sweden, Rolihlahla Nelson."

A 40 metre queue of dignitaries headed by Swedish foreign minister, Sten Anderson, and including Organisation of African Unity ambassadors, overseas ANC representatives, and the Swedish Release Nelson Mandela Committee, accompanied by various solidarity groups, met the Mandela couple.

Mrs Mandela, wearing a bright red overcoat to fend off the icy weather, emerged from the aircraft first, with her fist raised in greeting.

Her husband followed moments later, interspersing a similar greeting with friendly waves.

Mrs Mandela was presented with a bouquet of bright yellow flowers, and Mr Mandela with a woollen ANC scarf which added a splash of colour to his conservatively cut charcoal overcoat.

Mr Mandela appeared relaxed and rested after the 12-hour flight via Amsterdam in spite of an exhausting virtually non-stop schedule, particularly in Africa over the last week, since his release on February 11.

ANC officials have confirmed they are concerned at the toll Mr Mandela's activities is taking on his health, and his official programme is continually being rejigged in an effort to ensure he is not overburdened.

The 71 year-old leader's programme for Tuesday will take up a full 12 hours, according to latest details.

Urges Diplomatic Ties Cut With RSA

MB1303113390 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1131 GMT 13 Mar 90

[Text] Stockholm March 13 SAPA—The international community was urged here on Tuesday [13 March] by African National Congress Deputy President Nelson Mandela to cut all diplomatic ties with [the Republic of] South Africa [RSA] and to intensify all forms of sanctions possible.

Holds News Conference 13 Mar

MB1303123690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1213 GMT 13 Mar 90

[By Mark van der Velden]

[Text] Stockholm March 13 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela said in Stockholm on Tuesday [13 March] he wanted the international community to cut all diplomatic ties with South Africa.

Addressing his first press conference after arriving in Sweden on Monday, he also called for intensified sanctions "and any other form of pressure the international community can give".

"We are not in a position to choose...we are asking the international community to assist us to prosecute the apartheid system."

Replying to a wide range of questions during the hour long press conference, the deputy president of the ANC defended the organisation's policy of nationalisation, dismissed the threat posed by white rightwing South Africans, and promised President F.W. de Klerk "solid support" of the black majority if he created an atmosphere for negotiations by meeting the conditions laid down in last year's Harare declaration.

So far, Mr de Klerk had only taken one step, and that was the unbanning of the ANC.

Mr Mandela said the South African president had impressed him as a "man of integrity, who wants to honour the commitments he has made".

"But he must appreciate our organisation's policies are not determined by what we see in an individual...it is the policy of the party Mr de Klerk represents, and that has not changed.

"We are guided by that."

Inkatha Summons Blacks To Support De Klerk

*MB1103113390 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0944 GMT 11 Mar 90*

[Text] Ulundi, March 11, SAPA—Inkatha's powerful Central Committee has pledged full support for peace talks with the ANC [African National Congress]/UDF [United Democratic Front]/COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Union] alliance and called on all black organisations to back President F.W. de Klerk's act "white political boldness" [as received] with what it called "black political honour."

The committee resolved on Saturday [10 March] to urge Mr. de Klerk to get negotiations off the ground now for a new democratic constitution and to be bold in his rejection of far right detractors.

And it applauded what ANC deputy leader Nelson Mandela and other released political prisoners had said in committing themselves to ending violence among black people.

The committee took a firm decision to intensify Inkatha's own action for peace and to do everything it could to make "the ongoing peace initiatives between Inkatha and the ANC/UDF/COSATU alliance" as successful as possible.

It further called on all black organisations and political and community leaders to support "every move anybody makes" for peace.

In its resolution calling for black backing for Mr. de Klerk's initiatives, Inkatha said that this would be "fulfilling the dreams of past heroes and martyrs of the struggle—and those of the majority of blacks today—of negotiating a political settlement in South Africa."

In a preamble to the peace resolution, the committee said it had always supported and applauded Inkatha President Mangosuthu Buthelezi's campaign for the release of Mr. Mandela and other political prisoners and had looked forward to the abatement of black-on-black confrontations once this had been done.

It noted "with deepening concern," however, that violence showed no signs of abatement in the KwaZulu/natal region and that it showed signs of escalating elsewhere in the country.

It also recorded that, while there was not "specific loud and publicised condemnation" from the ANC, UDF or COSATU of each act of violence, "we really do applaud

what Mr. Nelson Mandela and other released political prisoners have said in commitments to ending black-on-black confrontations."

Buthelezi Introduces Inkatha's Declaration in 1990

*MB1003194290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1815 GMT 10 Mar 90*

[Text] Ulundi March 10 SAPA—The president of Inkatha, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has introduced a document entitled Inkatha's Declaration in 1990—the organisation's version of the ANC's [African National Congress] Harare Declaration, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] Radio news reports.

The document was released at Ulundi at the start of a meeting of the Inkatha Central Committee—the organisation's supreme policy-making body. It was distributed to all committee members for their approval.

Dr Buthelezi urged the members to clarify their position on the Harare Declaration, which he said was not their document and on which they were not consulted when it was drawn up.

Dr Buthelezi said that in drawing up the document, views of other political parties had been considered and that the International Declaration of Human Rights, which Inkatha supported, had been used as a basis.

PAC Congress To Review Homeland Unrest 10 Mar

*MB0903153290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1507 GMT 9 Mar 90*

[Text] Cape Town, March 9, SAPA—The involvement of the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] or Pan-Africanist Movement (PAM) in the instigation of violence which has rocked the Ciskei and Bophuthatswana in recent days "cannot be denied nor confirmed," the PAC's general secretary, Mr Benriy Alexander said from Johannesburg today (Friday).

He was reacting to recent reports which hinted at the PAC being behind the latest outbreaks of violence in the strife-torn homelands, and said the PAC would be discussing the "matter of this violence at our special one-day congress in Bloemfontein tomorrow (Saturday) if time allows."

"We hope to deal with the various matters on the agenda in a businesslike way so that we'll have some time to discuss this issue," he said.

The role of the organisation will be high on the agenda at the conference tomorrow, which will be held at Botshabelo's Pax Nora Roman Catholic Hall in Bloemfontein, he said.

Other items on the PAC agenda will include the effect of the recent unbanning of the PAC on its members and other organisations, and discussion of a document on President F.W. de Klerk's opening-of-Parliament speech and its relevance to the PAC.

Members of the Executive Committee of the PAC will meet in closed session between 9am and 5pm, and speakers will include Mr. Barney desai and Mr. Jafta Masemola.

Mr. Masemola was recently released after 27 years in prison. Mr. Desai recently returned to South Africa after a similar period in exile.

PAC chairman, Mr. Zeph Motopheng, will also be speaking at the congress, and the organisation will have an open session for the press following the executive meeting.

Black Warders at Diepkloof Protest Discrimination

MB1303102590 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1022 GMT 13 Mar 90

[Text] Johannesburg March 13 SAPA—Hundreds of black warders at the Diepkloof Prison south of Johannesburg staged a mass sit-in on Tuesday [13 March] in protest against alleged race discrimination, lack of representation in higher ranks and other grievances.

According to representatives of the striking warders—who call themselves the “interim committee”—close to 400 black warders of all ranks started the action at 6.30am.

The sit-in was being staged at the barracks and not in the prison itself and the guarding of prisoners was not affected, they said.

No comment was immediately forthcoming from the prisons department.

Branding the present channels for complaints as “useless”, the disaffected warders are now demanding an audience with the commissioner of prisons and with justice minister Mr. Kobie Coetsee to discuss the alleged grievances.

Demands, made in a petition to the commanding officer of the Diepkloof prison, include:

- Parity in medical aid between blacks and whites in the service. Black dependents are presently not covered by the existing scheme.
- An immediate R850 [rand] across the board salary adjustment to keep pace with the economic situation.
- Promotion based on merit and not, as alleged, in race and “favouritism”.
- That married black women warders be exempted from night shift work like their white counterparts.
- The opening of all prison facilities to all races, including swimming pools and recreational facilities.
- An “immediate end to racism and discrimination”.
- Posts an administrative duties at prisons headquarters should be proportionally shared “because at present whites make all the decisions”.

12 Mar Press Review on Current Problems, Issues

MB1203124590

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY STAR

‘Undivided’ Country Needed—Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English on 11 March in its page 14 editorial says the violent unrest in the homelands is “confirmation” that “planning the new South Africa will have to be in terms of a single undivided land.” Establishing the homelands has “skewed and stunted” natural economic growth. “Wasteful government structures proliferated. Through grand apartheid South Africa itself has lost reputation and economic opportunities.”

Opposition to ‘Wanton’ Violence—Jon Qwelane writes on page 16 the “blame” for the violence in the homelands “must be placed firmly at Pretoria’s door.” “Pretoria was warned amply and repeatedly on the dangers of disinherit- ing our people through the bantustan scheme.” However, “while we are quite correctly demonstrating our impatience and anger against apartheid-created despots who have done nothing for us except increase our misery, we must avoid employing their methods in our quest for redress.” Qwelane condemns the “wanton violence” in townships such as Kaitshong, saying such actions are “manna to the protagonists of racial and ethnic separation.”

SUNDAY TIMES

Authorities Obligation To Maintain Order—Referring to the unrest in the homelands and elsewhere Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 11 March says: “It is true that a great deal of the unrest had its origins in politics, but even such origins vary from place to place.” It is also true that “societies are at their most volatile when they are in transition towards reform” but “normalisation of politics cannot occur in an atmosphere of ungovernability.” Therefore, the authorities “who have an obligation to maintain law and order, are correct in declaring that enough is enough.”

Commission Evidence Harms Police Image—A second editorial on the same page refers to the evidence emerging from the Harms Commission inquiry into murder squads, saying the picture emerging “will not do the image of the defence force and the police any good.” “In the extremely difficult period of political transition ahead, South Africa needs disciplined security forces. Should not President de Klerk perform—now—what General Malan himself has called ‘a surgical cut’?”

THE STAR

Unrest Tests Reform—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 12 March in a page 8 editorial believes the government “is serious” about addressing “political negotiation with extra-parliamentary groups and efficient functioning of the economy.” The reshuffling of portfolios indicates a “targeting of priorities” but success in these areas “relies on more than streamlining in government.” THE STAR cautions there is a “terrifying ring” to Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok’s statement on violence that “enough is enough.” “Mr. de Klerk took a calculated risk in freeing indignant dissident

groups and leaders. He must take that risk further—in the face of unrest.” The risk he takes depends on Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Viljoen’s “ability to convert potential into reality.”

BUSINESS DAY

Black Education Solutions ‘Out of Reach’—The situation in black education “may already have reached the stage when ‘solutions’ are out of reach,” observes Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 12 March in a page 6 editorial. “The school-going population is increasing so fast that eliminating backlogs is not possible. Pupil boycotts have now become teacher boycotts. Back-to-school calls by leaders of stature have no effect, and the hope of liaison between government and the black community is evaporating.” “Apartheid is to blame, and Nationalists admit it.” Therefore, the coming budget should “give some indication of government’s commitment to putting things right.” BUSINESS DAY believes the government will make no headway “unless it can establish trust.”

Mandela, De Klerk Authority ‘Falters’—Editor Ken Owen remarks on the same page there is a “precarious” balance in South Africa because, “while the ANC [African National Congress] cannot dislodge the whites from power, nor even disarm the suburbs, the National Party has plainly lost the capacity to govern the townships, or even the homelands.” Referring to “reasonably reliable” polls Owen points out that 46 percent of Afrikaans voters support the National Party and 42 percent support the Conservative Party (CP), and “rightwing English voters are now leaping in small but significant numbers clear across the Nats to the CP.” A “grim, determined, violent mood” is emerging on the white right wing which is “very dangerous.” The situation in black politics is “also disturbing” since Mandela’s “moral authority falters” in the townships. “If President de Klerk does not lose his nerve as his power base erodes, and if Nelson Mandela does not lose patience as hotheads urge him to recklessness, these factions should gradually coalesce into recognisable political parties. Then leaders may emerge who have the authority not only to call out a crowd but to send it peacefully home again.”

13 Mar Press Review

MB1303115990

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Disparities ... Black, White Opportunities—If the government is “serious” about reform then Finance Minister Barend du Plessis’ budget “will have to demonstrate by its allocation of expenditure what has been preached from political platforms,” notes a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 13 March.

“Despite praiseworthy efforts to relax political tensions, it is apparent that disparities in facilities and opportunities between black and white will continue to provoke friction until the gap is substantially closed.”

BUSINESS DAY

‘Last Chance’ To Demonstrate Free Enterprise Efficacy—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 13 March in a page 6 editorial says Finance Minister Barend du Plessis’ forthcoming budget speech may be “the last chance to lay the basis for a demonstration of the efficacy of free enterprise, market mechanism, and the deliberate pursuit of growth as methods of overcoming poverty.” If the market economy does not produce “a marked improvement in the living standards of the black majority of South Africans, the demands for nationalisation of the means of production, for centralised control of the economy, for massive wealth distribution, and for accelerated affirmative action are likely to become irresistible.”

SOWETAN

RSA Must Encourage Homeland Reincorporation—The South African Government “would save itself and its puppet states a lot of grief and embarrassment if it encouraged them to be reincorporated into [the Republic of] South Africa [RSA],” declares a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 13 March. “This can be done without the leaders of these areas losing too much faith.”

THE NATAL WITNESS

Praise for De Klerk ‘Decisiveness’ on Hit Squads—Pietermaritzburg THE NATAL WITNESS in English on 3 March in a page 4 editorial says it is “deplorable” that State President F.W. de Klerk “should have been kept in ignorance of the CCB [Civil Cooperation Bureau]’s existence until January this year. There can be no greater indictment of the extent to which the Government lost control over its own creations than this single astonishing fact.” Therefore, “in extending the terms of reference of the Harms Commission [of inquiry into alleged murder squads], Mr. F.W. de Klerk has acted with the despatch and decisiveness that the country expects of its chief executive when faced with a situation of the utmost seriousness.”

Mandela Appreciative of White ‘Sensitivities’—Nelson Mandela’s assurance that an ANC government in South Africa would allow each community to run its own schools shows “a keen appreciation” on Mandela’s part of the “sensitivities of others,” remarks a page 6 editorial in Pietermaritzburg THE NATAL WITNESS in English on 6 March. “Not that the ANC is about to encourage the perpetuation of segregated schooling. Far from it. But Government spending on education will be colour blind—and those who want their own racially exclusive schools will have to fund them.”

Comoros

Elections Commission Announces Djohar Win

AB1203143190 Paris AFP in English 1307 GMT
12 Mar 90

[Text] Moroni, March 12 (AFP)—Comoros interim leader Said Djohar won Sunday [11 March]'s election in the Indian Ocean islands to find a successor to murdered President Ahmed Abdallah, the Elections Commission said here Monday. It gave him a final tally of 102,882 votes against 83,250 for his opponent Mohamed Taki, the percentages being 55.27 and 44.73.

Mr. Taki, head of the National Union for Democracy, immediately lodged a protest with the Supreme Court alleging fraud in Mr. Djohar's favour at 15 main polling stations covering more than 30,000 people. Interior Minister Omar Tamou said the general trend of the voting could not be altered, however.

Mr. Djohar, 73, of the ruling Unity Party, was head of the Supreme Court when Mr. Abdallah was murdered in November and automatically became acting president. The Presidential Guard headed by European mercenaries took over the Indian Ocean islands for some weeks until French troops forced the mercenaries to leave.

Political sources said Mr. Djohar would drop all Mr. Abdallah's former advisers and form a government with Said Ali Kemal, founder of the Shuma Party, as prime minister. Mr. Kemal, grandson of the Comoros' last sultan, won 13.71 percent of the votes in a first round and sided with Mr. Djohar for the second.

Oppositions Contest Results

EA1203212690 Mayotte Radio France Overseas
in French 1600 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] In the region, Interim President Said Muhamed Djohar apparently won the presidential elections held yesterday in Comoros but the opposition firmly contests the results, and the Supreme Court had not yet officially endorsed them at the end of the afternoon.

According to figures given this morning by the national commission in charge of the control and monitoring of the elections, Djohar takes a more than 10 percent lead over Mohamed Taki with 102,882 votes—55.27 percent—against 83,250—44.73 percent—for his opponent. The abstention rate reached 40 percent of registered voters.

After having lodged a complaint yesterday about fraud, Mohamed Taki this morning lodged another complaint about irregularities. These frauds are a grave breach of the electoral code and are likely to jeopardize the legitimacy of the elections, according to National Union for Democracy in the Comoros [UNDC] leader Mohamed Taki.

While awaiting the Supreme Court communique, Interior Minister Omar Tamou said the possible changes which the supreme authority might decide upon will not question the general trend of the elections. Djohar's supporters also expressed readiness to counterattack by raising the case of the town of (Amahame) on Grande-Comore Island, Mohamed Taki's stronghold, where Taki won against his adversary by a margin of 8,000 votes.

The complaints lodged by the UNDC party are on the unlawfulness of elections in at least 15 polling stations, notably at Domoni, Anjouan Island, where president Abdallah is buried. They deal with a minimum of 30,000 voters, according to Mohamed Taki's entourage. Last night, the Comoran security forces took positions on the main roads leading to the capital city, but no incidents were reported.

President Djohar was to speak this evening on Radio Comoros to appeal for unity and to urge Comorans to forget the elections. The composition of his government should be announced within the next few days. Said Ali Kemal, leader of the Chuma party, who withdrew in Djohar's favor, is expected to be appointed prime minister, according to various diplomatic and political sources. These decisions, however, will depend on how long the Supreme Court takes to rule on the UNDC's complaints.

Malawi

Zimbabwe's Mugabe Meets Banda, Departs 9 Mar

MB0903190990 Blantyre Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 9 Mar 90

[Text] His Excellency President Robert Mugabe, of the Republic of Zimbabwe, today paid a one-day official visit to Malawi, during which he held private talks with His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr. Kamuzu Banda in Lilongwe.

Speaking during [words indistinct] this ceremony, the life president said he was pleased with President Mugabe's visit but regretted that it was too short.

His Excellency President Mugabe hinted that, during the discussions, he briefed his excellency the life president on efforts being pursued to establish peace in the southern Africa region. His Excellency President Mugabe said he had also extended an invitation to his excellency the life president to visit Zimbabwe and attend that country's 10th independence anniversary next month. The Zimbabwe president described the talks as fruitful and amicable.

His Excellency President Mugabe has since returned to Zimbabwe.

Banda-Mugabe Talks Reported*MB0903213990 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2009 GMT 9 Mar 90*

[Text] Lilongwe March 9 SAPA—Malawi, which has not participated actively in political programmes to end regional conflicts, on Friday indicated it may use its influence to help stop the war in Mozambique, Zimbabwe's news agency ZIANA reports.

President Kamuzu Banda, who hosts more than 800,000 refugees from neighbouring Mozambique's 14-year-old war with Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance Movement] bandits, tacitly acknowledged Malawi's support for current peace efforts after a 90-minute meeting with Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe.

Diplomatic sources said Mr Banda's relations with Renamo were such that he could influence the movement to compromise and accept Maputo's 8-month-old peace plan to end the Mozambican war.

The plan is being mediated by Mr Mugabe and Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

The sources said the Zimbabwean President's reference to Malawi's favourable response to the pursuit of peace in the region meant Mr Banda had promised to support efforts to end the Mozambican war.

I am glad that the issues that I came to discuss have been discussed...and in a manner that produced a favourable response, Mr Mugabe said to the press after his meeting and an exchange of gifts with the Malawian leader at government state house.

Mr Mugabe said African countries had a duty to cooperate and work for peace as European countries were doing and said he was gratified to note that Malawi accepted this obligation.

If they can do it, why not we? chipped in a nodding and smiling Mr Banda.

[Johannesburg SAPA in English at 1958 GMT on 9 March adds in a report datelined Harare:

"Malawian President Hasting Kamuzu Banda, who rarely travels abroad, will attend Zimbabwe's 10 independence anniversary next month after the extension of an invitation by President Robert Mugabe on Friday.

"ZIANA national news agency reported the Malawian Government declared a public holiday in honour of Mr Mugabe on Friday on his one-day visit to the country.

"Mr Mugabe returned to Harare on Friday night after holding discussions on bilateral, regional and international issues with Mr Banda.

"He said Zimbabwe and Malawi had close relations and he regarded Mr Banda as a friend, an elder brother and senior statesmen and was looking forward to his visit.

"Mr Mugabe said Mr Banda's programme in Zimbabwe would include a visit to Gweru, where the Malawian leader was imprisoned in the early 1960s.

"State Security Minister Sydney Sekeramayi and several senior government officials accompanied Mr Mugabe to Malawi."

Namibia**Gurirab Welcomes Decision To Enter Commonwealth***MB1203132490 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 12 Mar 90*

[Text] The Namibian foreign minister designate, Mr. Theo-Ben Gurirab, has welcomed the decision to admit Namibia to the Commonwealth when the country becomes independent on 21 March. Mr. Gurirab said in Windhoek that the move was in line with the incoming government's foreign policy objectives and that Namibia stood to benefit enormously. He said the country had been able to draw on Commonwealth experience even before independence, gaining advice on constitution making and the restructuring of the public service.

The decision to make Namibia the 50th member of the Commonwealth was announced in London this morning by the organization's secretary general, Sir Shridath Ramphal.

Nujoma Accepts Offer*MB1303085190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0818 GMT 13 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek March 13 SAPA—Namibia's president-elect, Mr. Sam Nujoma, says he does not believe Namibia will have political influence on specific countries, but would strive for the general progress of the international community, NBC radio news reports.

Mr. Nujoma accepted an offer in Windhoek on Monday [12 March] for Namibia to become the 50th member state of the Commonwealth.

He said Namibia would contribute towards world peace and security and would promote diplomatic relations and co-operation among the different countries of the world.

The president-elect added the incoming government was looking forward to participating as a full member of the Commonwealth, the United Nations, the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, the Organisation of African Unity and the movement of non-aligned countries.

Mr. Nujoma thanked the Commonwealth and the United Nations for the assistance given to exiled Namibians in the past.

Nujoma Appoints Executive Team Officials

*MB1203184090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1657 GMT 12 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek March 12 SAPA—Namibian President-elect Mr Sam Nujoma has appointed two more permanent secretaries to the executive team which will take over the administration of the country at independence on March 21.

They are SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] media liaison officer Mr Eddie Amkongo, who has been named permanent secretary in the office of the president, and Mr Petrus Damaseb, who becomes permanent secretary in the prime minister's office.

Mr Amkongo had previously served as SWAPO's chief representative in Congo-Brazzaville, Senegal and France.

Mr Damaseb had been special assistant to Prime Minister-designate Mr Hage Geingob.

Pienaar Notes Independence 'Lessons' for RSA

*MB1003165390 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 10 Mar 90*

[Text] The administrator general in Namibia, Mr. Louis Pienaar, says a lesson for [the Republic of] South Africa [RSA] from the independence process in Namibia is to negotiate a new constitution before holding an election.

Mr. Pienaar said at Upington that it had been a mistake to hold an election in Namibia prior to formulating a constitution. This had limited the negotiating capabilities of the parties opposed to SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] because it had won the most votes.

He urged white South Africans not to remain isolated but to reach out to the other population groups.

Mr. Pienaar said another lesson to be learned from the Namibian experience was that ethnicity was still a factor to be reckoned with.

Council of Churches Issues Statement on SADF

*MB1003074590 Windhoek TIMES OF NAMIBIA
in English 8 Mar 90 p 2*

[Text] The Council of Churches in Namibia [CCN] expressed its shock to learn that South African Defence Force [SADF] members are allegedly still moving around Namibia.

The Executive Committee of the CCN disclosed in a statement that disturbing reports are reaching its headquarters of twenty young South African soldiers who have been sported in the Caprivi area.

"We are shocked to learn that SADF members are still moving around Namibia and question South Africa's motives and integrity in allowing this to happen.

"We call upon the United Nations to immediately investigate this matter and ensure that these elements are now removed from threatening our independence and security," the CCN statement said.

The CCN also expressed its concern about incidents of cross-border incursions and banditry which are occurring on the Northern border and the influx of refugees fleeing the country.

"We pray for a peaceful settlement between the government of the People's Republic of Angola and the leadership of the Unita [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] movement.

"We yearn for peace triumph and that the people of Angola may be freed from the evils and sufferings occasioned by war," the statement said.

The CCN also reiterated its standpoint with regard to the enclave of Walvis Bay and all the off-shore islands as Namibia's rightful possession and an integral part of Namibia's sovereign territory. [as published]

"Namibia can never be regarded as being whole until those tracks, of land, with all the rights pertaining to them, are restored to the people of Namibia.

"We view with disgust the attempts to dive and barricade Walvis Bay from the rest of the country.

"We also condemn the inhuman treatment of Namibians who are resident in the enclave by those in authority.

"In this regard we especially call upon the British Government, which originally transferred the area to the Cape Province, to take a special initiative within the UN Security Council," the CCN said.

New Passport, Visa Requirements Outlined

*MB1003075090 Windhoek TIMES OF NAMIBIA
in English 8 Mar 90 p 3*

[Text] Existing passport and visa requirements in respect of Namibia and South African citizens would remain operative until 30 June 1990.

According to an agreement between Namibian and South African authorities:

- No visa requirements will be introduced for Namibian and South African citizens wishing to travel between the two countries until 30 June 1990.

- Namibian and South African citizens must be in possession of their respective identity or travel documents or Namibian and South African passports when travelling between the two countries.

- A citizen of a foreign country, having permanent residence in Namibia or South Africa and travelling on a Namibian or South African document between the two countries, will have to submit proof of such permanent residence before being allowed to cross the border.

In such a case it is preferable that such a person would make use of a passport of the country of which he is a citizen, wherein proof of such permanent residence has been endorsed by the appropriate authorities of Namibia or the Republic of South Africa, as the case may be.

- A citizen of a foreign country, who does not have permanent resident in Namibia or South Africa will require a valid passport from the country of which he is a citizen, as well as a visa for Namibia, unless such persons are exempted from visa requirements.

In view of the independent and sovereign status of the two countries after Namibia's independence, the agreement says the following:

- Citizens of the two countries wishing to travel after 30 June 1990 will be required to present valid passports of their respective countries at designated points of entry.

- No document other than a valid national passport will be accepted by the immigration authorities after that date.

The office of South African Interests at c/o Jan Jonker and Klein Windhoek Roads will continue to render consular services issue passports, travel documents, etc to South African citizens as well as entry authorizations/visas to aliens.

After 21 March, Namibian citizens may lodge their applications for Namibians passports with:

The department of Civic Affairs and Manpower, Cohen Building, c/o Casino and Kaiser Streets, Windhoek.

The telephone number is (061) 398 9111.

Official Notes Independence Security Arrangements

MB1203211690 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] The designated Namibian minister of state for security in Namibia, Mr. Peter Tsheehama, says that although the security arrangements for independence week are adequate, visiting delegations will be allowed to bring additional security personnel.

Addressing a news conference in Windhoek, Mr. Tsheehama said that the police in Namibia were mounting a nationwide campaign to ensure the safety of its visitors.

In addition, patrols along Namibia's northern borders will be doubled and emergency services fully operational to ensure the celebrations succeeded.

Future Security Minister Interviewed in Luanda

FL1003025890 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Mar 90

[Text] The presence of a delegation from the future Namibian Government at the seventh ordinary session of the joint commission on the agreements signed in New

York about southwestern Africa drew the attention of many of us who came here to Luanda. One of the delegation's members, Peter Tsheehama, who will hold the post of minister of state for security in an independent Namibia, agreed to speak to the Cuban press.

Tsheehama referred to the deep gratitude and appreciation Namibians feel towards Commander Fidel Castro, the Communist Party of Cuba, and the revolutionary Cuban Government and people for the political and diplomatic support they gave over many years to the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO. He also pointed out Cuba's role in the implementation of the process that has led to the virtual independence of Namibia, which he said was possible thanks to the massive Cuban effort to promote implementation of UN Resolution 435.

About the significance of the declaration of independence on March 21, Tsheehama expressed the natural feeling of joy of his entire people, who will see more than a century of colonialism come to an end. He said that this joy extends to those who worked side by side with the Namibians' desire for freedom, and all those throughout the world who love independence and peace.

The future minister of state for security said that an independent Namibia will join the Nonaligned Movement, continuing the policy followed by SWAPO during the years of fighting for freedom. He also said it plans to become part of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Zimbabwe

ZUM Promises To End State of Emergency

MB1203045690 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2222 GMT 11 Mar 90

[Text] Mutare March 11 SAPA—If the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM) is voted into power in the forthcoming general elections, it will repeal the state of emergency and withdraw Zimbabwean troops from Mozambique in a week's time, an election rally was told on Sunday [11 March].

The ZUM Manicaland vice chairman, Giles Mutsekwa, told the rally held at Nyanyadzi in Chimanmani, 100 km south east of Mutare, that within that first week, his party would also re-name some of the main streets in the province, ZIANA national news agency reports.

His party had in its possession a number of letters from foreign investors "who are waiting on the fence" to come to the country immediately a ZUM government was established, he said.

He said more industries would be built and unemployment eased. ZUM, Mr Mutsekwa said, would also establish "junior polytechnics" to curb the unemployment of school-leavers.

All medical fees, including maternity fees, would be reduced to a level "affordable by the ordinary masses", he told the meeting attended mostly by young people.

"All these promises are contained in our constitution. We do not have an election manifesto but a political manifesto—that is our constitution."

Minister Criticizes Contacts With South Africa

MB1203191490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1706 GMT 12 Mar 90

[Text] Harare March 12 SAPA—African states should not negotiate with Pretoria over the heads of the "liberation movements," Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira said in Harare on Monday [12 March].

ZIANA news agency reports the foreign minister as saying that African states should instead support the South African struggle by working within parameters set by the movements.

Mr Shamuyarira was opening a week-long conference on U.S.-USSR foreign policy on southern Africa.

"There is no reason for African states meeting (President F.W.) de Klerk. We hope the African states will restrict their activities within the parameters that have been set by the liberation movements," he told academics and other professionals.

On superpower relations, Mr Shamuyarira said the apparent rapprochement between the U.S. and the USSR had removed the "so-called red menace which the South Africans had long fed on".

"They (Pretoria) now say the ANC [African National Congress] and PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] can no longer go to Eastern Europe for material support. This has removed the so-called red menace and this is a good thing because this will allow political mobilisation to take place at a more practical level," he said.

Mandela Release Way for 'Greater Exploitation'

MB1203104890 Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL
in English 18 Feb 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Which Way?"]

[Text] It was the founder President of Ghana, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, who once stated that imperialists regarded decolonisation only as a manoeuvre for the greater exploitation of their former colonies.

"They do not accept it as a historical necessity to end a shameful and untenable period in human history," he

said. The same could be said of the manner in which some of the imperialist countries are handling the release of the ANC [African National Congress] leader Cde. Nelson Mandela. They are not regarding it as an opportunity to abolish the evil system of apartheid which imprisoned an innocent man for nearly 30 years.

On the contrary, the leaders of countries such as the United Kingdom, who have opposed the struggle against apartheid in the past, are cashing in on the release of Cde. Mandela to urge the world to ease all pressure on the racist authorities in Pretoria.

In other words they are frantically looking for ways and means to exploit the current situation to strengthen the hand of the besieged racist authorities in South Africa.

They are in no way ashamed that while masquerading as the champions of freedom and democracy, they have for many years protected, and are still protecting, a neo-fascist regime that has caused untold suffering to millions of black people throughout the whole of Southern Africa.

Instead they sound more concerned with the future status of the racist white minority than they have ever been with the inalienable rights of the oppressed majority. The Western countries would like the release of Cde. Mandela to be an end in itself. They hope to produce an arrangement whereby the whites in South Africa will continue playing a pivotal role as a mini-superpower in the economic and political structures of Southern Africa.

And President F.W. de Klerk appears to be aware of the role he is being assigned to play. Hence he said of his regime of February 2 this year: "The government is prepared to enter into discussions with other Southern African countries, with the aim of formulating a realistic development plan. The government believes that the obstacles in the way of a conference of Southern African states have now been removed sufficiently."

This sounds like the South African president hopes to be around and among us for quite a while. And it sounds very much like the old song around the theme of the proposed constellation of Southern African states.

There are two ways of looking at Cde. Mandela's release: the imperialists' way and the people's way. The above is the way the imperialists and their allies are looking at current developments in South Africa.

The people and their political organisations regard Cde. Mandela's release as a victory which should be used to mobilise all the patriotic forces to intensify in order to overthrow and not to capitulate to the forces of apartheid.

Benin**Kerekou Appoints 15-Member Civilian Government**

AB1203174590 Paris AFP in French 1719 GMT
12 Mar 90

[Text] Cotonou, 12 Mar (AFP)—The Beninese head of state, General Mathieu Kerekou, today appointed a new 15-member government. All members of the government are civilians. They are led by a prime minister, a newly created post entrusted to Mr. Nicephore Soglo, who was executive director of the World Bank from 1979 to 1986.

None of the 16 ministers of the former government, which resigned on 6 March but remained in office until now, was reappointed.

The head of state retains his major prerogatives but has given up the defense portfolio, which will be assumed by the prime minister. Gen. Kerekou, however, remains head of the armed forces.

New Cabinet Named

AB1303110590 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
0615 GMT 13 Mar 90

[Excerpts] Nicephore Soglo was sworn in yesterday as Benin's prime minister. The solemn ceremony took place at the People's Hall of the Presidential Palace in Cotonou, in the presence of the head of state, President Mathieu Kerekou, members of the Council of the Republic, ambassadors and representatives of international organizations, and several other guests.

Mr. Soglo's government comprises 15 members including two women. Here is the full list of members of the government as disclosed by the prime minister in his inaugural speech:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted]

Prime Minister and Minister of Defense	Soglo, Nicephore
Minister of Interior, Public Security, and Territorial Administration	Feliho, Florentin
Minister of Planning and Statistics	Dossou, Paul
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	Natta, Theophile
Minister of Finance	Lemon, Idelphonse
Minister of National Education	Hountondji, Paulin
Minister of Culture, Youth, and Sports	Dramane, Karim
Minister of Justice and Legislation	Yehouessi, Yves
Minister of Rural Development and Cooperatives	Ndiaye, Adamou
Minister of Equipment and Transports	Farre, Eustache
Minister of Public Health	Lawson, Veronique
Minister of Information and Communication	Tchitchi, Toussaint
Minister of Labor and Social Welfare	Ahoyo, Veronique
Minister of Industry, Energy, and Public Enterprises	Adekounti, Fatiou
Minister of Commerce, Arts, Crafts, and Tourism	Adjaho, Richard

Ivory Coast**President Says Successor 'Will Be Known This Year'**

AB1303115090 Paris AFP in French 1027 GMT
13 Mar 90

[Text] Paris, 13 Mar (AFP)—Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny announced yesterday evening in an interview with the French television channel TF1 that the congress will designate his successor "this year".

"I do not want disorder in my country and there will not be any disorder. I want everything to be orderly. I want people to know my successor while I am still alive and he will be known this year," President Houphouet-Boigny added. "I will not be the one to appoint him. He will be designated by the congress and the party and the sooner the better. I am not a king. The party exists," he added. "I would like Ivory Coast to remain a haven of peace, prosperity, and stability. It is a glass house and I have nothing to hide," he added.

Questioned on his personal fortune, Mr. Houphouet-Boigny said: "I have never said I have no fortune. I have sealed my account book and placed it at the feet of the Lord. He is the only one who knows what I have received and what I have given."

Houphouet-Boigny Comments on Remaining in Power

AB1203202690 Paris AFP in French 1611 GMT
12 Mar 90

[Excerpts] Paris, 12 Mar (AFP)— In an interview granted to the French Catholic daily LA CROIX and published in its 13 March issue, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny said that his leaving or staying in power depended on his party congress and not the man in the street. [passage omitted]

Speaking of the "arrest" of his main opponent Laurent Gbagbo, Houphouet-Boigny said that "he is totally free to go everywhere in Abidjan or elsewhere in the country," and he does not want to "to weave a martyr's wreath for him." He added that Mr. Gbagbo "will not go to France for a Channel 5 television program." "I do not want to give him any authority." "Since he has so much interest in the country's social situation, he said, he should wait for my major address like the others in the country." Mr. Gbagbo was to attend a program on the French Television channel "La Cinq" this evening, but was put under house arrest at his residence in Abidjan on the afternoon of 10 March, and then freed early yesterday morning.

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14 March 1990

